Public Support for Tobacco Control

The American public's support of tobacco control can be seen not only in the shifting norms on tobacco use, but in a number of surveys:

National Support

► A study by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention found broad support for a total ban on the use of any tobacco product (including cigarettes, cigars, pipes, and chewing tobacco) at school-sponsored events.[1]

► The same study found that most respondents believed that stronger enforcement of laws prohibiting the sale of cigarettes to minors would be effective in keeping teenagers from smoking.[1]

> **73 percent of the bar patrons surveyed said they approve of the law that prohibits smoking in bars**

Regional Support

► In a study conducted in four states, approximately 65 percent of the respondents would support an extra tax on tobacco to finance public campaigns against smoking. More than 82 percent believed that stronger laws should be enacted to prevent the sale of tobacco products to minors, and more than 86 percent believed that existing laws should be better enforced.[2]

► According to an Oregon Smokeless States survey, 77 percent of the Oregon citizens responding believe that local communities should be in control of the laws that affect the health of their citizens; 78 percent believe that local communities should have the power to pass laws protecting people from secondhand smoke in public places; and 85 percent said that people should be protected from secondhand smoke.[3]

► In a poll conducted in California, 73 percent of the bar patrons surveyed said they approve of the law that prohibits smoking in bars, a 24 percent increase from the rate in 1998 when the law took effect.[4]

CDC

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